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5 APR 1950

Chief, COAPS

Assistant Director, ORE

## Conferences with US Government Officials Returning from Abroad

Reference: Letter to DCI from Mr. Armstrong, dated 25 March 1950, Subject as Above

1. ORE believes that the changes suggested by the Department of State in the proposed Interagency Operating Procedure on the above subject are excellent, although the language should be tightened up. It is therefore recommended that the text of the proposed agreement be modified as indicated below.

2. Change the introduction of the proposed agreement to read as follows:

"Conferences with United States Government officials returning to the United States from areas which are of significant intelligence interest constitute a valuable source of information for intelligence purposes and may be of great assistance to intelligence specialists, by virtue of the opportunity such conferences provide to secure from such officials their personal and uninhibited views and opinions. In order to free such officials from the unnecessary burden of repeating their remarks to successive groups of intelligence specialists, it is agreed that, if there is sufficient outside interest among the agencies participating in the agreement, interagency intelligence conferences will be conducted under the auspices of the CIA for the benefit of all. If it is determined, by mutual agreement, that such outside interest does not exist or is insufficient to justify an interagency intelligence conference, the agency of which the officer is a member may conduct such strictly departmental meetings as are deemed necessary. To clarify and standardize certain principles governing the scheduling and conduct of interagency intelligence conferences, the following operating procedures and allocation of responsibilities are agreed upon."

3. Change the words "intelligence organization" to "department or agency" in the second line of the Security Agreement.

4. Change paragraph a of the Security Agreement to read as follows:

"To give an appropriate classification to items of intelligence information derived from this conference, and to disseminate them only on a strict need-to-know basis, taking every precaution that their immediate source will not be disclosed."

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REMARKS:

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